

DEPARTMENT OF STATE TELEGRAM

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

ACTION: DCM-2

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4 FEB 75, 0902

Classification

INFO: CHRON AND POL ECON POL II

P R 032120Z FEB 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO RUHNL/AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY 9144
RUDIC/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 4332
INFO RUHAB/AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 5846
RUTAM/AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM 2056
BT
~~SECRET~~ STATE 024342

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NARR, MASS, PFOR, NE, US

SUBJECT: KENYAN REQUEST FOR US MILITARY TRAINING AND ASSISTANCE

REF: (A) NAIROBI 741; (B) NAIROBI 199; (C) NAIROBI 1026;
(D) NAIROBI 10618

1. STATE AND DOD BELIEVE THAT FAVORABLE RESPONSE TO KENYAN REQUEST IS IN US'S BEST INTEREST. TO THAT END, SECRETARY HAS MADE DECISION TO PROCEED WITH FOLLOWING ACTIONS:

A) DOD IS DRAWING UP AN IN-CONTINENTAL U.S. MAP TRAINING PROGRAM BEGINNING IN FY 75 PROJECTED TO HAVE AN ANNUAL VALUE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD OF DOLS. 50,000. SIMULTANEOUSLY DEPT. IS PREPARING REQUEST FOR PRESIDENTIAL DETERMINATIONS NEEDED TO AUTHORIZE FMS CREDIT AND MAP TRAINING IN FY 75 FOR KENYA.

B) FOR LONDON: EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO INFORM FCO, AND IF APPROPRIATE MOD, OF KENYAN REQUEST FOR US MILITARY ASSISTANCE AND OF OUR INTENTION TO BE FORTHCOMING. EMBASSY SHOULD STRESS THAT WE RECOGNIZE AND SUPPORT BRITAIN'S TRADITIONAL ROLE AS MAJOR SUPPLIER TO KENYA OF

MILITARY TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT. WE HAVE NO WISH TO SUPPLANT BRITAIN IN THIS RELATIONSHIP BUT, GIVEN MUCH LARGER GOK MILITARY REQUIREMENTS AND GOK'S DIRECT APPROACH TO US FOR ASSISTANCE, WE FEEL THAT IT IS IN JOINT INTERESTS OF US AND UK TO BE RESPONSIVE. WE WISH

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TO DEVELOP OUR PROGRAM IN A FRAMEWORK OF FULL CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION WITH THE BRITISH. IN THIS CONNECTION IT WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL IF BRITISH WOULD PROVIDE US WITH A COPY, OR ALTERNATIVELY A COMPLETE RUN-DOWN, OF THEIR RECENT SURVEY OF KENYA'S DEFENSE NEEDS AND AN INDICATION OF THEIR CURRENT INTENTIONS TOWARD FILLING THOSE NEEDS.

C) FYI ONLY: EMBASSY TELEGRAM IS BEING REQUESTED IN SEPTEL TO QUERY GOI ABOUT THE AVAILABILITY AND COST OF IRANIAN F3A'S, (WHICH GOI HAS INDICATED MAY BE SURPLUS TO ITS NEEDS), AND TO DISCUSS IN GENERAL TERMS OUR PROPOSALS FOR KENYA. THIS INITIATIVE SHOULD NOT REPEAT NOT BE DISCUSSED WITH THE KENYANS OR THE BRITISH UNTIL WE HAVE MORE INFORMATION ON POSSIBILITY OF OBTAINING F3-A'S. END FYI ONLY.

2. FOR NAIROBI: EMBASSY IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO INFORM GOI OF OUR DESIRE TO BE RESPONSIVE TO KENYA'S REQUEST FOR MILITARY ASSISTANCE WITHIN APPLICABLE LEGISLATIVE, APPROPRIATIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE CONSTRAINTS. WE HAVE INITIATED CERTAIN REQUISITE INTERNAL ACTIONS TO PERMIT GREATER FLEXIBILITY OF RESPONSE. ALTHOUGH NOT YET IN A POSITION TO TALK SPECIFICS TO THE KENYANS, WE WILL BE IN TOUCH WITH THEM AGAIN AS SOON AS THESE INTERNAL ACTIONS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED.

3. FYI: WE WILL NOT BE READY TO DISCUSS SPECIFIC EQUIPMENT OR PRIORITIES WITH GOI UNTIL WE HAVE CLEARER PICTURE OF BRITISH SURVEY RECOMMENDATIONS AND INTENTIONS AND OF POSSIBILITY OF OFFERING F-3A PACKAGE DRAWN FROM IRAN'S SURPLUS. WE WILL KEEP EMBASSY FULLY INFORMED OF OUR PROGRESS. END FYI.

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